

# Yes, 1938 Will Surely Put the Skids Under Us

By N. P. D.

WHEN Snell Smith calls his book *America's To-morrow* he means it. According to his ingenious reasoning, every nation has its day, and to-morrow is America's. There was absolutely no reason why any one should ever have worried about the outcome of the world war. The outcome was decided three hundred years ago. It was written in the books, or as Mr. Smith would say, in "the law of blood"—to say nothing of the Book of Daniel. By the law of blood Mr. Smith means the infusion and transfusion of blood by which alone nations increase in strength and grow great. The law of blood provides that every nation, when it reaches its zenith, shall impose its sovereignty over other lands. Three hundred years is required for the culmination of this strength of a people, for a country to bud and bloom, so to say.

The law of blood began to operate in America in 1638, when the towns of Hartford, Windsor and Wethersfield formed a union, in what was later to become Connecticut. Since then, the "greatest transfusion of blood since Adam" has taken place in America, until "we have nothing to fear from any race, kingdom or clime, and in our time will subdue all." With this knowledge of our greater transfusion, Mr. Smith says we should have known it was a "certainty" that we should turn the scale against Germany; he says we had the "scientific assurance" of this, since the law of blood "works with exactness."

## II.

At the beginning of the world war, Mr. Smith says every people had had its day of infusion and corresponding growth and expanding strength except America, and possibly Japan. He confesses that when he began to examine the history of all the nations of the world with a view to proving the exact working of the law of blood he was afraid Japan might arise to refute his theory. Japan has had no infusion for 1,400 years, and has never expanded, except recently to a limited degree in Korea. Yet Japan defeated two nations in war, China and Russia. But Mr. Smith finds that neither the war with China nor Russia was a fair test of the law of blood and the strength of a nation. He says China had passed its zenith three thou-

sand years ago, and was as "weak as water"; while Russia was greatly handicapped in its war with Japan by the distance needed to transport military supplies. Japan, Mr. Smith finds, therefore, is no exception to the law of blood, and he is sure that country, owing to its lack of infusion and expansion, will never have the "youthful vigor" to enable it to wage successful war against the United States.

The law of blood brings bad news for Ireland. "The Irish, with practically the same Celtic stock for two thousand years, have been held in subjection by the many times amalgamated British"—and the chances are they will continue so to be held until the prophecies of Daniel are fulfilled and there is a federation of the world. Perhaps in Mexico and Peru Mr. Smith finds the law of blood working most admirably. He says:

"The Aztecs conquered the older peoples they found in Mexico. Upon the establishment of their sway in 1195 A. D., in what is now the City of Mexico, they celebrated the festival of 'tying up the bundle of years' and beginning a new cycle. Amalgamation resulted. After exactly three centuries had gone by they expanded into a great empire which extended from Panama to California. They had reached their zenith and were ready for their fall when the Spaniards arrived."

## III.

There is much to make America cocky in Mr. Smith's book, and confident of to-morrow. But, on the other hand, there is a good deal to perplex us. How, for example, can we oppose Japan's demand for Shantung, or annexations generally? In asking for Shantung is Japan not fulfilling her destiny and acting in accord with the law of blood, which requires infusion and expansion? And "Article X," subscribing to a status quo and guaranteeing territorial integrity, is this not flying in the face, if not of Providence, at least of Daniel and the law of blood? Surely it can be accepted only with the reservation that it shall not stand in the way of scientific working of the law of blood. For it is the fate of nations apparently to swallow and in turn be swallowed, to annex and be annexed.

Mr. Smith, it may be surmised, recognizes not only the inevitability of wars but believes in war, and eclipses Bernhardi himself in extolling its benefits and virtues. St. Augustine is quoted with approval, that war is the transition from a lower to a higher state of civilization.

"War stimulates the highest and the noblest impulses of man."

"The highest virtue is sacrifice."

"Peace is stagnation. War is life."

"Every war has left humanity better than it found it."

"It is true in nature, from the lowest protoplasm to the highest organism, that when opposing interests clash they fight."

Mr. Smith finds this last true even of pacifists, whom he handles in a way to suggest that he classes them with the lowest protoplasm, rather than the highest organism. He is equally contemptuous and denunciatory of those who insist that all wars are "capitalistic." He brings pages of proof to the contrary.

"The great controversy over the right to secede from the Union, which went on for twenty years with increasing acrimony, with Webster, Seward and Sumner on one side and Calhoun, Hayne and Davis on the other, according to this view, was not a contributing cause of the war between the States. The fervor of righteous indignation against slavery that swept through the North, fanned by *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, John Brown's raid, and the firing upon Fort Sumter, had nothing to do with the outbreak of the struggle. It was 'capitalism.' When the people of a reunited America were roused to fever heat by the cruelties practised by Weyler and the blowing up of the Maine in Havana Harbor and went to war and crumpled the power of Spain in order to enable Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines to enjoy the benefits of free institutions, it was really 'capitalism' that did it all. It was the same with those who desired liberty more than life in the war of American independence. And to the last war Socialists in this country expressed bitter opposition on the same ground."

## IV.

In 1938, then, 300 years after the beginnings of Connecticut, when America, the last of the expanding nations, has had its full quota of infusion and has reached the zenith of its power, we may be ready for the League of Nations and the federation of the world. But what kind of a federation will it be, some may ask, of nations that have reached their zenith and have started to decline and fall? The point Mr. Smith would probably make is that all this infusion of centuries and the growth of nations has only been to the end of abolishing monarchistic forms of Government and establishing free institutions. Anyhow, Daniel has prophesied a world federation, and Daniel is no more

to be denied than the law of blood. Mr. Smith even suggests the salary for the president of the new federation—\$250,000 per annum, "enough to maintain in dignity such a position."

In an introduction, Hudson Maxim calls Mr. Smith's book an "historic, prophetic and anthroponomic treatise." He should have added "Bibliomahic," since the divinations of Daniel in the Bible are no more to be overlooked than the anthroponomic divinations by the entrails of a human sacrifice. The author's footnote references to the Scriptures and multitudinous other learned sources, including "Ibid," are most imposing and testify, if testimony were needed, to the enormous amount of study and reading that have gone into this most interesting Anthropomancy regarding *America's To-morrow*. There is enough in the book to keep a man thinking backward and forward for many a day—backward to the beginnings of Connecticut and America's greatness, and forward to 1938.

AMERICA'S TO-MORROW. BY SNELL SMITH. New York: Britton Publishing Company.

THREE new publishers! Harcourt, Brace & Howe represent, to an extent, a secession from Henry Holt & Co. They announce new books this fall by Dorothy Canfield, Sinclair Lewis and Philip Littell, the last named on the staff of the *New Republic*. They are evidently to be strong in poetry, promising books by T. A. Daly, George Edward Woodberry, Louis Untermeyer and Margaret Widdemer. Sinclair Lewis's book, *The Job*, is his story *Free Air*, lately in the *Saturday Evening Post*; but the book is half as long again as the serial.

James A. McCann Company has published Corinne Lowe's *Saul* and an excitement story by Ahmed Abdullah.

The third new publisher is Cosmopolitan Book Company, a rebirth of Hearst's International Library as an active publishing enterprise with a dozen titles. James Oliver Curwood's *The River's End*, Arthur Somers Roche's *Uneasy Street*, Basil King's *The Abolishing of Death* and Elsie Janis's story of her six months in France are some of them.

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS will publish here the book of literary criticism by the English writer, Robert Lynd, which has excited much admiration in London. It is called *Old and New Masters*.

# Books Received in the Week Ending August 13

## Fiction.

THE SECRET OF THE TOWER. By ANTHONY HOPE. Romantic mystery novel laid in England after the war by a man who once wrote a book called *The Prisoner of Zenda*. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

THE LADY OF THE CROSSING. By FREDERICK NIVEN. West story. A young man comes to Kootenay as a stranger and things happen. No pistol play. New York: George H. Doran Company.

ISAACS: SOME CHAPTERS IN THE LIFE OF DAVID ISAACS, GENERAL MERCHANT. By JOSEPH GEE. On the order of our own *Potash and Perlmutter*, but Stanley Hamilton Gordon Isaacs is a Londoner. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company.

DAVID VALLORY. By FRANCIS LYND. Story of a man with a double conscience; one conscience for business and another for purely personal relations. The background is a great engineering project in a rough country. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

THE SHADOW OF MALREWARD. By J. B. HARRIS-BURLAND. Lady Malreward buried her husband. His face appeared in her dreams, came a note written in his hand, his voice was heard in the night and a murder came as a climax. Mystery story. New York: Alfred A. Knopf.

THE PALE HORSE. By "ROPSHIN" (BORIS SAVINKOV). Russian novel of revolutionary effort in 1905. The "pale horse" is ridden by Death. New York: Alfred A. Knopf.

A CANDLE IN THE WIND. By MARY IMLAY TAYLOR. Of a woman who was married to a man she thought was a hero. Afterward she learned he was a coward—and that the other man was alive. New York: Moffat, Yard & Co.

BURNED BRIDGES. By BERTRAND W. SINCLAIR. The Canadian Northwest. Rivalry between an inexperienced missionary and an Oxford remittance man for a girl. Boston: Little, Brown & Co.

THE OWNER OF THE LAZY D. By WILLIAM PATTERSON WHITE. A sheriff has his hands more than full suppressing a cattle war, particularly as he is in love with the daughter of one of the factional leaders. Boston: Little, Brown & Co.

## Fiction.

JANET OF KOOTENAY. By EVAN MCKOWAN. Romance of a woman farmer in the Kootenay Valley and a wounded army officer. New York: George H. Doran Company.

DR. PAUL. By ETHEL PENMAN HOPE. A girl engaged to a physician breaks the engagement and for months lives, unknown to him, in his house as his housekeeper, while he fights his heritage of evil. New York: George H. Doran Company.

MUMMERY. By GILBERT CANNAN. The glittering success of a girl on the London stage, which she finally abandons to become the wife of an idealist like herself. New York: George H. Doran Company.

L'ATLANTIDE. By PIERRE BENOIT. In French. This romance received a prize from the French Academy. The theme is the lost continent, Atlantis. Paris: Albin Michel, 22 Rue Huyghens.

THE POSITION OF PEGGY HARPER. By LEONARD MERRICK. Another volume in the limited edition of Merrick's books. A story of the stage. The introduction is by Arthur Pinero. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co.

SIRIGLES. By E. LAWRENCE DUDLEY. The story of a ragamuffin who found a good home and got a college education. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

MR. STANDFAST. By JOHN BUCHAN. Spies, love and war in England. New York: George H. Doran Company.

## History.

LA GUERRE ROUMAINE: 1916-1918. By MIRCEA DJUVARA. In French. Introduction by Emile Boutroux. Detailed history of Rumania in the war. Appendices and some statistics. No maps. Paris: Berger-Levrault.

## Ethics.

TSING HUA LECTURES ON ETHICS. By GREGORY DEXTER WALCOTT. Lectures delivered before Chinese students in Peking in which an effort is made to construct an ethical ideal equally applicable East and West. Boston: Richard G. Badger.

## Text Books.

EVERYDAY SCIENCE. By WILLIAM H. SEYMOUR. High school text ranging over

the whole field, in an elementary way, from the earth's formation to the balanced ration. Many photographs and diagrams. New York: Allyn & Bacon.

AUX ETATS-UNIS. By ADOLPHE DE MONVERT. A French reader for beginners by the author of a similar text, *La Belle France*. Pictures various parts of the United States, the larger cities, &c. Many photographs. Vocabulary. New York: Allyn & Bacon.

## Biography.

THE REMAKING OF A MIND. By HENRY DE MAN. Described as *A Soldier's Thoughts on War and Reconstruction*. Reminiscent; a sort of autobiography of changing opinions. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

THE PRISONERS OF MAINZ. By ALEC WAUGH. Experiences of English officers imprisoned by the Germans from the time of the German spring drive in 1918 to the signing of the armistice in November. New York: George H. Doran Company.

ARTHUR GEORGE OLMSTEAD. By RUFUS BARKETT STONE. Life of a Pennsylvania citizen of some renown in the middle of the last century. Philadelphia: John C. Winston Company.

LA PSYCHOLOGIE DU KAISER. By HENRI MAZEL. In French. Written to establish premeditation and design on the part of William II. against France. Paris: La Renaissance du Livre, 78 Boulevard Saint-Michel.

IN WHITE ARMOUR. By ELIZABETH CREVEY HAMM. The life of Capt. Arthur Ellis Hamm, 326th Infantry, U. S. A. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

## For Boys and Girls.

HULDY'S WHISTLE. By ANNE ARCHBOLD MILLER. About a boy who was a trial to his folks, who learned from Huldy the secret of "putting glory into good." For grownups, too, at least those who enjoyed *Pollyanna*. Chicago: Reilly & Lee Company.

## Political Science.

GOVERNMENT VERSUS PRIVATE RAILROADS. *Journal of the National Institute of Social Sciences*. Short articles on phases of the subject by various experts. Boston: F. W. Faxon Company.

## France.

MADAME FRANCE. By R. LOUISE FITCH. A survey of the moral, social, industrial and educational effects upon the women of France of the war. The author was sent to France by the Young Women's Christian Association, arriving in April, 1918. New York: Womans Press.

## Miscellaneous.

THE MODERN BANK. By AMOS KIDDER FISKE. New and revised edition of a book first published in 1904. The author is an editor of the *New York Journal of Commerce*. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

THRIFT AND CONSERVATION. By ARTHUR H. CHAMBERLAIN and JAMES F. CHAMBERLAIN. One of a series of educational guides. Deals with economy in food, dress, time, natural resources and human resources generally. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company.

HISTOIRE ANECDOTIQUE ET PSYCHOLOGIE DES JEUX DE CARTES, DES ECHECS. By VICTOR DU BLEU. Everything for the lover of gambling, from anecdotes of Voltaire to the calculation of odds. Not a text book, a gossip book. In French. Paris: Librairie Delagrave, 15 Rue Soufflot.

SOCIAL GAMES AND GROUP DANCES. By J. C. ELSOM and BLANCHE M. TRILLING. Games and dances suitable for social use, including community enterprises. Illustrated with photographs. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company.

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